IAP12 Rec'd PCT/FTD 19 MAY 2006

Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 09812.0082

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| Application No. PCT/JP2005/012471 for: | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Kazuhiko OKAMATSU | | | | | | |
| Application No.: Not Yet Assigned | | | | | | |
| Filed: May 19, 2006 | | | | | | |
| For: DISK DRIVE APPARATUS AND METHOD, RECORDING MEDIUM, AND PROGRAM (AS AMENDED Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | | | | | | |

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and are in a non-English language:

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1. 10-124891 - The relevance of this document is discussed at page 17 of the specification of the present application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and are in a non-English language:

- 2. 11-66579
- 3. 10-289452

An English-language abstract of the documents is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

10/580043

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If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: May 19, 2006

David W. Hill Reg. No. 28,220

Enclosures DWH/FPD/alp

ERNEST F. CHAPMAN Reg. No. 25,961

| IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO | | | | Complete if Known 158004 | | |
|--|---|----|-----|--------------------------|-------------------|--|
| | | | | Application Number | Not Yet Assigned | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE | | | | Filing Date | May 19, 2006 | |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | First Named Inventor | Kazuhiko OKAMATSU | |
| | | | M I | Art Unit | Not Yet Assigned | |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 09812.0082 | |

| U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS | | | | | | |
|---|------|--|--|--|---|--|
| | Cite | Document Number | Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where | |
| | No.1 | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | |
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Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | Translation ⁵ |
| | | JP 10-124891 | 05-15-1998 | SONY CORP | | Abstract |
| | | JP 11-66579 | 03-09-1999 | SONY CORP | | Abstract |
| | | JP 10-289452 | 10-27-1998 | SONY CORP | | Abstract |
| | | | | | | |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|--|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ | | |
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| Examiner Signature | /Nicholas Lee/ | Date Considered | 11/26/2008 |
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.